SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

REPLY TO ATTN OF: AFCIN

18 JUL 1960

FILE SAMOS

SUBJECT: Reconnaissance Data from SAMOS R&D

TO: Undersecretary of the Air Force

Last month, identical letters were sent to the Department of the Army, Department of the Navy, National Security Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency to determine specific distribution requirements for SAMOS products.

A copy of the letters and the replies are attached so you can have the information before your 18 July meeting. The reply from the Department of the Navy has not been received.

The requirements, as expressed, will be satisfied. I think they exhibit the real need of the Intelligence agencies for photography with any usable resolution and all usable ferret data as well as confidence in Air Force capabilities.

JAMES H. WALSH
Major General, USAF
Assistant Chief of Staff,
Intelligence

4 Atch
1. AFCIN ltr to ACS/I, D/Army dtd 10 Jun 60, same subj.
2. ACSI-CS ltr, 28 Jun 60, same subj.
3. CIA letter, 5 Jul 60, same subj.
4. NSA letter, 6 Jul 60, same subj.

DS 60-4719 A1

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AFCIN 10 June 1960

Reconnaissance Data from SAMOS R&D

Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence
Department of the Army
Washington 25, D. C.

1. The first SAMOS launch is now scheduled in September 1960. If R&D objectives are met, a limited amount of reconnaissance data will be recorded on film and magnetic tape. The photographic image to be recorded on 35mm positive film can be reproduced, without titling, or reassembled on 9½ inch film and titled before distribution. The Elint Data recorded on magnetic tape must be calibrated prior to distribution. The signals will be in digital form and may be distributed on IBM tape or cards.

2. As an interim measure, in order to make use of the data collected by the R&D flights, the Air Force is preparing to reproduce and distribute to Intelligence Organizations all usable photographic images on 9½ inch roll film and all usable Elint Signals on IBM tape and cards.

3. The Intelligence Collection Requirements for a SAMOS Operational System are being reconsidered by the Satellite Intelligence Requirements Committee. However, if you desire to be placed on distribution for any of the above, which may become available from the R&D flights, request you designate your recipient and point of contact for appropriate detailed planning.

FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

/s/ JAMES H. WALSH
Major General, USAF
Assistant Chief of Staff,
Intelligence

* Identical letters sent to NSA, CIA and D/Navy

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Atch #1

SECRET

JUN 28 1960

ACSI-CS

SUBJECT: Reconnaissance Data from SAMOS R&D (U)

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence
Department of the Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference your letter, 10 June 1960, subject as above, file AFCIN.

2. The Army recipient for the photographic images from the initial R&D SAMOS orbits is to be Lt. Colonel Charles W. Allen, Technical Branch, Collection Division, OACSI, Pentagon Room 2B457, Telephone Oxford 74700.

3. At this time, Army has no need to be placed on the initial distribution of the R&D SAMOS ELINT signals, as the Army will work with the National Security Agency in defining its ELINT requirements.

(sgd.) John M. Willems

JOHN M. WILLEMS
Major General, GS
ACofS for Intelligence

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Atch 4

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

5 JUL 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence
United States Air Force

SUBJECT : Reconnaissance Data from SAMOS R&D

1. With reference to your letter of 14 June 1960 on this subject, CIA has the following requirements for materials and facilities to permit us to exploit reconnaissance data from the SAMOS system during the initial phase of the SAMOS R&D flight program:

a. Two positions at the SAMOS Data Processing Center for personnel to be trained and participate in the exploitation of SAMOS photography with working space for as many as two additional persons who might need to work at the Data Processing Center, from time to time.

b. One direct positive or negative of the 35mm photographic recording of the readout of the data link between the satellite and earth, whichever is the product of the data link. If a choice is possible, we would prefer a positive.

c. One positive transparency and one duplicate negative of the reassembled primary record.

d. One complete set of manuals on the procedures for handling the photography, i.e., determining longitude, latitude, time, scale, etc., of the primary record as well as the reassembled materials.

e. A complete index of coverage on the ground by each pass denoting longitude, latitude, time plus tilt, tip, swing, and altitude, calibrated focal length and precise scale factor. It is assumed the SAMOS Processing Center is equipped to handle the ephemeris records of the satellite in such a manner that these data can be provided in either machine tape or human language form.

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f. One copy of the preliminary readout which is done at the HANDS Processing Center in the form of an IPIR and other special alerts.

g. If, at some later date, the CIA Photographic Intelligence Center is provided with center format data handling equipment, we will require center format photography as well as the 9" wide material. We will also require duplicate copies of all reference material which has been reduced to center format at the HANDS Processing Center.

h. One duplicate positive and one duplicate negative of the highest possible quality will be required from the E-5 system as well as calibrated focal length and lens distortion pattern for the camera used.

i. In the initial phases while the ELINT data are produced in digital form, CIA will depend on reports of ELINT results from the National Security Agency. Once the data are produced in analog form we will require duplicates of selected analog records.

2. As additional information and experience is acquired concerning the HANDS system, the CIA Photographic Intelligence Center will amend the requirements for photographic materials as needed. The CIA Office of Scientific Intelligence will also amend the requirements for ELINT data.

SIGNED

C. P. CABELL
General, USAF
Acting Director

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND

Serial: N 2623
6 JUL 1960

SECRET

SUBJECT: Reconnaissance Data from SAMOS R&D (C)

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence
U. S. Air Force
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to your letter, File AFCIN, subject same as above, dated 14 June 1960.

2. This Agency desires to be on distribution for both the ELINT data on IBM cards and the photographic images on roll film as described in your letter. Request we be advised when the 35 mm. positive film becomes available.

3. Mr. Oliver R. Kirby, PROD-04, is designated as recipient of these materials. He may be contacted by phone on Code 188, Extension 7758.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

T. R. KURTZ, JR.
Rear Admiral, USN
Assistant Director

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